

FEB 7 2006

EDUCATION

HOUSE FILE 2276
BY CHAMBERS

Passed House, Date _____ Passed Senate, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to a school district's authority regarding
2 attendance for graduating seniors.
3 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

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HF 2276

1 Section 1. Section 279.10, subsections 1 and 2, Code 2005,
2 are amended to read as follows:

3 1. The school year shall begin on the first day of July
4 and each regularly established elementary and secondary school
5 shall begin no sooner than a day during the calendar week in
6 which the first day of September falls but no later than the
7 first Monday in December. However, if the first day of
8 September falls on a Sunday, school may begin on a day during
9 the calendar week which immediately precedes the first day of
10 September. School shall continue for at least one hundred
11 eighty days, except as provided in subsection 3, and may be
12 maintained during the entire calendar year. ~~However, if the~~
13 ~~board of directors of a district extends the school calendar~~
14 ~~because inclement weather caused the district to temporarily~~
15 ~~close school during the regular school calendar, the~~ A school
16 district may excuse shall require a graduating senior who has
17 ~~met district or school~~ to meet the same requirements for
18 ~~graduation from attendance during the extended school calendar~~
19 ~~as those required of any other class of students enrolled at~~
20 the secondary level in the school district. A school
21 corporation may begin employment of personnel for in-service
22 training and development purposes before the date to begin
23 elementary and secondary school.

24 2. The board of directors shall hold a public hearing on
25 any ~~proposal~~ request prior to submitting it to the department
26 of education for approval.

27 EXPLANATION

28 This bill eliminates a provision that authorized a school
29 district to excuse a graduating senior from attendance on
30 instructional days which the school district added to the
31 school calendar to make up for school calendar days lost due
32 to inclement weather. The bill requires that graduating
33 seniors meet the same attendance requirements as those
34 required of any other class of students enrolled at the
35 secondary level in the school district.